

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development****Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315)****Grant Recipient: Northwest Arctic Borough****Project Title:**

## Northwest Arctic Borough - Regional Magnet School

**State Funding Requested: \$ 150,000****House District: 40 - T**

Future Funding May Be Requested

**Brief Project Description:**

Northwest Arctic Borough School District and the Alaska Technical Center is currently developing a plan to establish a statewide residential magnet school serving 100 students that is focused on careers in mining, teaching, and healthcare.

**Funding Plan:****Total Cost of Project: \$35,000,000**Funding Secured

Amount FY

Other Pending Requests

Amount FY

Anticipated Future Need

Amount FY

There is no other funding needed

*Explanation of Other Funds:**Will be seeking additional funding from a variety of sources.***Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

The Northwest Arctic Borough School District (NWABSD) is currently developing a plan to establish a statewide residential magnet school serving 100 students focusing on careers in mining, teaching, and healthcare. The school will serve students in grades 11-14 and specialize in preparing students for available long term employment. The program will combine the resources of the Kotzebue High School, the Alaska Technical Center, and Chukchi College. Students will have the ability to receive a high school diploma, and up to two years of college and technical education leading to a career or industry certification. Across the state, there is a need and future demand for employees in these well paying career fields. Currently, there is no school in Alaska that is filling this need. Nationally there are many states that have schools that include postsecondary work leading to a degree or certification. As a hub community with a local mine and modern hospital, Kotzebue is an ideal place to build a magnet school. Eventually the magnet school program will require construction of a 100 student dormitory for high school students and additional housing facilities and classroom space at the Alaska Technical Center. The first request of \$150,000 will be used for more concrete planning regarding the program and preliminary design work.

**Project Timeline:**

Preliminary design is scheduled for 2008 (winter) and 2009 (spring). Facility construction is projected for 2009 with completion in August 2010.

**Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:**

Northwest Arctic borough School District

**Grant Recipient Contact Information:**

Contact Name: Cheryl Jong

Phone Number: 442-3472

Address: Box 51 Kotzebue, AK. 99752

Email: [cjong@nwarctic.org](mailto:cjong@nwarctic.org)Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? ☒ Yes ☐ No

## **Introduction**

Northwest Arctic Borough School District (NWABSD) is currently developing a plan to establish a statewide residential magnet school serving 100 students that is focused on careers in mining, teaching, and healthcare. The program will combine the resources of Kotzebue High School, the Alaska Technical Center, and Chukchi College and offer a high school diploma, and up to two years of college and technical education leading to career/industry certification, and entry-level technical skills.

## **Overview**

This program is unique for several reasons. First, there is currently no other magnet school in Alaska for 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade, and post-secondary students. Second, There is a high- and long-lasting demand for employees in these well paying career fields located across our state. Third, Kotzebue as the regional and cultural hub of northwest Alaska with a world-class mine, modern hospital, statewide technical center, and large rural high school has the infrastructure, capacity, and capability to deliver quality programs in these three program areas and to meet the social needs of additional youth in the community.

## **Rationale**

The current system of small high schools in rural Alaska fails to meet the needs of too many students, families, and communities. There is a definite need for a grade 11-14 secondary-postsecondary program that specializes in preparing students for long-term high paying careers. Kotzebue with its well-developed infrastructure is uniquely positioned to fill that need.

## **Facility Needs**

The magnet school program will require capital construction of a 100-student dormitory for high school students and additional housing facilities and classroom space at the Alaska Technical Center. Construction costs are estimated at 35 to 40 million dollars.

## **Project Activities and Timeline**

The district proposes to develop the program plan of service, obtain industry support, obtain construction funding, secure land for additional facilities, and begin preliminary design during the fall, winter, and spring of 2008-2009. Facility construction is projected to begin in fall 2009 and be completed in August 2010.

## **Contacts**

Cheryl Jong, CTE Specialist  
Northwest Arctic Borough School District  
P.O. Box 51  
Kotzebue, AK 99752  
Phone: 907-442-3472, ext. 229  
Email: [cjong@nwarctic.org](mailto:cjong@nwarctic.org)

Cheryl Edenshaw, Director  
Alaska Technical Center  
P.O. Box 51  
Kotzebue, AK 99752  
907-992-3733  
Email: [cedenshaw@nwarctic.org](mailto:cedenshaw@nwarctic.org)



*Leading the Way*

# Northwest Arctic Borough School District

*"Educating Our Children to Lead Successful Lives"*

P.O. Box 51 • Kotzebue, Alaska, 99752 • Phone (907) 442-3472 • Fax (907) 442-2392

## RESOLUTION 08-001

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A RESIDENTIAL HIGH SCHOOL AND POST-SECONDARY PROGRAM IN KOTZEBUE, ALASKA**

**WHEREAS**, many small high school programs in rural Alaska are unable to provide academic and Career Technical Education (CTE) curricula that specifically prepare students for post-secondary academic or technical education related to careers found in rural Alaskan communities;

**WHEREAS**, employers who provide significant career opportunities in rural Alaska are unable to find enough qualified Alaskans to fill positions in teaching, healthcare, and mining careers;

**WHEREAS**, educational opportunities in existing Alaska residential high school programs do not include magnet programs targeted at rural healthcare, teaching, or mining careers and do not combine the resources of large rural high school, a post-secondary technical center, and a rural campus of the University of Alaska;

**WHEREAS**, the Northwest Arctic Borough School District and the City of Kotzebue provide the unique qualities of a successful high school program and a large regional hub community with a strong economic and cultural base, sound community infrastructure, rich cultural history and tradition, and the capability and desire to support a residential magnet school program for students in grades 11-14;


**WHEREAS**, the Northwest Arctic Borough School District formally supports the establishment of the magnet school for grades 11-14 and has expressed interest in partnering with the Alaska Departments of Labor and Education and Early Development, the University of Alaska, school districts, and employers who offer careers related to the proposed curricula;

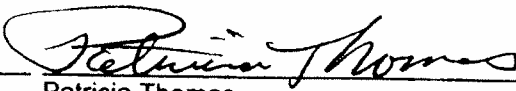
**WHEREAS**, the State of Alaska has an outstanding opportunity to support the development of the first magnet school in Alaska targeted specifically at long-term career opportunities in rural Alaska by supporting the Northwest Arctic Borough School District's application to build and operate a unique break-the-mold secondary/post-secondary magnet school program;

**THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Northwest Arctic Borough School District formally requests financial and technical support from the State of Alaska, Northwest Arctic Borough, and major employers to construct the necessary facilities, develop curricula, and fund the operation of a residential magnet school in Kotzebue, Alaska, that serves Alaskan students in grades 11-14.

**ADOPTED**, August 28, 2007 at a regular meeting of the Northwest Arctic Borough School District Board of Education at which a quorum was present and voting:

**ATTEST**

  
Eugene Smith,  
President, NWABSD Board of Education

  
Patricia Thomas,  
Secretary, NWABSD Board of Education

*Serving the Villages of*

Ambler • Buckland • Deering • Kiana • Kivalina • Kobuk • Kotzebue • Noatak • Noorvik • Selawik • Shungnak

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 07-08**  
**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE CONCEPT OF THE NORTHWEST ARCTIC**  
**REGION STATEWIDE MAGNET SCHOOL**

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WHEREAS, the Alaska Workforce Investment Board is a public organization that is accountable through its members and staff to the residents, the Legislature and the Governor of Alaska;

WHEREAS, the Alaska Workforce Investment Board shall act as the lead state planning and coordinating entity for state human resource programs involving employment training, vocational education, and workforce development;

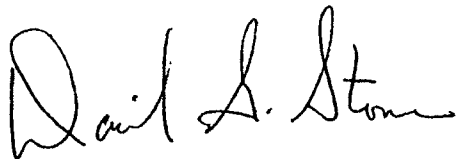
WHEREAS, the Alaska Workforce Investment Board was presented with the concept of a Northwest Arctic Region Statewide Magnet School;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Workforce Investment Board supports the concept of the Northwest Arctic Region Statewide Magnet School.

**CERTIFICATION**

The Alaska Workforce Investment Board held a meeting duly and regularly called, noticed, and convened this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of October, 2007 and the foregoing Resolution was adopted unanimously at said meeting.

Signed this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of October 2007.



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David Stone, Vice-Chair  
Alaska Workforce Investment Board

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

P.O. Box 756480, Fairbanks, Alaska 99775-6480  
907 474-7341, FAX 907 474-5451



UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS

November 12, 2007

TO: Norman Eck, Superintendent  
Northwest Arctic Borough School District

Cheryl Edenshaw, Director  
Alaska Technical Center

FROM: Eric Madsen, Dean *Eric Madsen*  
School of Education, UAF



Thank you for making time to visit with UAF School of Education personnel over the past few weeks. Based on those conversations, we are happy to offer our support for your concept to develop the Star of the Northwest statewide residential magnet school that will prepare young people for careers in health, mining, and education.

Alaska imports from other states approximately 80% of the new teacher positions hired every year. Many of these are capable teachers, but their contributions to the state are sadly short-lived. In contrast, we have abundant data indicating that residents of Alaska who become teachers stay in the profession and in the state longer, thus providing greater instructional continuity—and ever-increasing professional maturity—to Alaska's P-12 students.

The University of Alaska Fairbanks has distance-delivered teacher preparation programs to residents of rural communities for almost 40 years. In recent years, young people in these communities are increasingly considering a much broader array of career options beyond teacher preparation. While this is good for them and good for our state, the trend clearly indicates that we, as education professionals, need to develop new strategies to attract young people into education-related careers, and new models for delivering educator preparation programs.

The Star of the Northwest statewide residential magnet school offers a promising path toward addressing both of these needs. The UAF School of Education fully supports your efforts to develop the School, and we look forward to partnering with you and our colleagues on the Chukeyhi Campus to develop and deliver programs.

Thank you for the invitation to contribute to this important work.

cc. Lincoln Saito



## Alaska Mineral and Energy Resource Education Fund

121 W. Fireweed Lane, Suite 220  
Anchorage, AK 99503  
Phone (907) 276-5487 Fax 276-3887  
kirts@ameret.org  
www.ameret.org

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Executive Director  
*David Kirtz*

November 30, 2007

Dr. Norman Eck, Superintendent  
Northwest Arctic Borough Schools  
P.O. Box 51  
Kotzebue, AK 99752

Dear Dr. Eck,

I am writing to support the Northwest Arctic Borough School District's proposal to build and operate a magnet school program for grades 11-14 in Kotzebue, Alaska.

As Executive Director of the Alaska Mineral and Energy Resource Education Fund (AMEREF), a past Alaska State Director of Career & Vocational Education, and a retired Alaska superintendent of schools, I know firsthand that Alaska lacks sufficient numbers of educational programs that prepare students for careers in teaching and mining in rural Alaskan communities. As you can see the organizations represented by the AMEREF Board employ a large number of individuals in the mineral and energy careers and are unable to find the numbers of qualified Alaskans they seek to fill current and future positions.

In my opinion the Northwest Arctic Borough School District's proposal represents an excellent opportunity to combine locally available resources and talent to create a unique educational opportunity to prepare young Alaskans for high-paying careers that will strengthen rural communities and address the needs of employers.

As a long-term employer and educator in Alaska, I support the NWABSD proposal and request that the Alaska Legislature, Departments of State Government, and other major employers join me in actively supporting the construction and funding of the Northwest Arctic Borough School District magnet school for grades 11-14.

Sincerely yours,

Jeland A. Clune,  
Executive Director

✓ Ce. C. Long

*AMEREF's Mission is to provide Alaskan Students with the knowledge and skills to make informed and objective decisions relating to mineral, energy, and forest resources.*

January 24, 2008

Norm Eck  
Northwest Arctic Borough School District  
PO Box 54  
Kotzebue, Alaska 99752

RE: Supporting Northwest Arctic Borough School District's Proposal

Dear Norm:


I am writing on behalf of NANA Regional Corporation to support the Northwest Arctic Borough School District's proposal to build and operate a magnet school program for grades 11-14 in Kotzebue, Alaska.

As President/CEO of NANA Regional Corporation I know firsthand that Alaska lacks sufficient numbers of educational program that prepare students for careers in teaching, healthcare, and mining in rural Alaskan communities. The Northwest Arctic Borough School District, Maniilaq Association currently have employees in teaching, healthcare and mining career but are unable to find qualified Alaskans to fill these positions.

Northwest Arctic Borough School District's proposal represents an excellent opportunity to combine locally available resources and talent to create a unique educational opportunity to prepare young Alaskans for high paying careers that will strengthen rural communities and address the needs of employers.

As a long-term employer in rural Alaska, NANA Regional Corporation supports the NWABSD proposal and requests that the Alaska Legislature, Departments of State Government, and other major employers join us in actively supporting the construction and funding of the Northwest Arctic Borough School District magnet school for grades 11-14.

Sincerely,

  
Marie N. Greene  
President/CEO





## **NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH**

January 29, 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with great pleasure that I write this support letter on behalf of the Northwest Arctic Borough School District's proposal to build and operate a magnet school program for grades 11-14 in Kotzebue, Alaska.

As Mayor of the Northwest Arctic Borough is has become increasingly clear that Alaska lacks sufficient numbers of educational programs that prepare students for careers in the fields that this magnet school is looking to create for our region. We have been able to identify careers in teaching, healthcare and mining that have the greatest number of employment opportunity in any part of Alaska, but more importantly in rural Alaska.

The Northwest Arctic Borough School District's proposal represents an excellent opportunity to combine locally available resources and talent to create a unique educational opportunity to prepare young Alaskans for high-paying careers that will strengthen rural communities and address the needs of employers.

The Northwest Arctic Borough actively supports educational programs and services that provide a pathway for our youth to an active future. We support the NWABSD proposal and requests that the Alaska Legislature, Departments of State Government and other major organizations and employers join us in supporting the construction of the Northwest Arctic Borough magnet school for grades 11-14 in Kotzebue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Siikauraq Martha Whiting", is written over a faint, circular official stamp.

Siikauraq Martha Whiting  
Mayor



P.O. Box 264  
Kotzebue, Alaska 99752

City Hall  
(907) 442-3401

Police Dept.  
(907) 442-3331

Fire Dept.  
(907) 442-3404

Public Works  
(907) 442-3401

February 4, 2008

Dr. Norman Eck, Superintendent  
Northwest Arctic Borough School District  
P.O. Box 264  
Kotzebue Alaska 99752-0264

Dear Dr. Eck:

I am writing on behalf of the City of Kotzebue in support of the Northwest Arctic Borough School District's proposal to build and operate a magnet school program for grades 11-14 in Kotzebue, Alaska.

As the City Manager of Kotzebue, I know first hand that Alaska lacks sufficient numbers of educational programs that prepare students for careers in the "blue collar" workforce. Moreover, these programs, for the most part, are financially rewarding to those who have marketable skills. I see a need to train our youth in these lucrative professions.

The Northwest Arctic Borough School District's proposal represents an excellent opportunity to combine locally available resources and talent to create the educational platform to avail young Alaskans to high-paying careers that will strengthen rural communities while addressing the needs of current and prospective employers.

As a long-term employer in rural Alaska, the City of Kotzebue supports the Northwest Arctic Borough School District proposal and requests that the Alaska Legislature, the various departments of state government and other major employers join in actively supporting the construction and facilitation of the Northwest Arctic Borough School District magnet school for grades 11-14.

Sincerely,

**THE CITY OF KOTZEBUE**

By:

Rich Walker, City Manager



February 5, 2008

Norman Eck, Ph.D., Superintendent  
Northwest Arctic Borough School District  
P.O. Box 51  
Kotzebue, AK 99752

Dear Norm,

I am writing to express strong support for Northwest Arctic Borough School District's proposal to develop and operate a statewide magnet school for grades 11-14 in Kotzebue.

Understand that I'm not quick to endorse new ideas intended to improve the delivery of education; I have witnessed many such "miracle" programs come and go. Furthermore, as a past commissioner of education, I am acutely aware of the public policy implications of any change in our state's education delivery system. That said, I consider this program worthy of my support for the following reasons:

- Most importantly, I believe the magnet school will successfully address long-standing unmet academic, career, and employment needs that negatively impact two important groups: the students who attend small rural high schools and Alaskan employers who find it very difficult to fill-high paying careers in rural Alaska.
- The magnet school combines the resources of already successful institutions. Kotzebue High School has the capacity to serve an additional 150 students, Chukchi College, located directly across the street from the high school, already partners with the school for advanced placement classes and the Alaska Technical Center, located a half-mile away, has a long history of success in delivering quality education and training programs for local business and industry.

- The magnet school will focus only on careers in education, health care, and resource development. Each of these career fields provides outstanding career opportunities for students and responds to important needs identified by Alaskan employers.

- The proposal has strong endorsements from business, industry, and local government. Teck-Cominco (operators of the Red Dog Mine), NANA Regional Corporation, Maniilaq Association, Northwest Arctic Borough, Northwest Arctic Borough School District, and the City of Kotzebue are committed to the success of the magnet school.

- Kotzebue has the critical infrastructure necessary to support a statewide magnet school. As a regional hub it offers a large modern hospital, a rich Alaska Native heritage, daily jet service to Anchorage, a strong community infrastructure, and an Arctic environment close to home for many students.

Finally, I believe that Alaska must increase its delivery of high-value educational opportunities for rural high school students. Mt. Edgecumbe High School has proven that high-quality programs delivered to a large group of students in a highly supportive school environment produces outstanding results. Let's put that knowledge to work in a new way and prepare a generation of students for important long-lasting careers.

Sincerely yours,



Jerry Covey



DRAFT: November 15, 2007  
**Program Elements**  
**Star of the Northwest**  
*A Statewide Residential Magnet School*

BCA Project No. 0719

**NEW DORMITORY BUILDING**

1 Required Spaces	# Rooms	Size	Total	Special Requirements
Student Rooms				
4-person rooms	25	400	10,000	
Toilet/Shower rooms	6	500	3,000	
Resident Advisors ( 1 per floor)				
Director Apartment	1	600	600	
Upper Floors	2	300	600	
Common/Recreation Area				
Ground Floor	1	1,500	1,500	
Upper Floors	2	200	400	
Office	1	200	200	
Laundry	1	200	200	
Kitchen				
Small Commercial	1	500	500	
Pantry	1	200	200	
Building Storage	1	500	500	
Janitor	3	50	150	
<b>Subtotal</b>			<b>17,850</b>	<b>sf</b>
<b>2 Mechanical/Electrical</b>		10%	17,850	<b>1,785 sf</b>
<b>3 Circulation (Foyers, Corridors, Vestibules, Walls)</b>		35%	19,635	<b>6,872 sf</b> Elevator and Elev Equip Room
<b>BUILDING TOTAL</b>			<b>26,507</b>	<b>sf</b>

**ALASKA TECHNICAL CENTER ADDITION**

Note: Program spaces based on NWABSD Analysis

**1 Science, Engineering, Math, Technology Cluster, Mining and Natural Resources Pathway**

Required Spaces	# Rooms	Size	Total	Special Requirements
Shop Space	1	2,880	2,880	14' ceiling; mobile partition; two garage doors; three phase power; pneumatically plumbed; smoke evaluation; concrete slab/steel plate floor
Restroom in shop	1	150	150	Includes Shower
Classroom	2	1,056	2,112	Mobile partitions; projection screens and equipment
Offices	4	96	384	
Restroom adjacent to classroom	2	300	600	
<b>Subtotal</b>			<b>6,126</b>	<b>sf</b> Located on First Floor

## 2 Health Science and Human Services Cluster, Nursing Pathway

Required Spaces	# Rooms	Size	Total	Special Requirements
Classroom	1	1,056	1,056	Mobile partition; projection screens and equipment
Lab	1	1,056	1,056	
Offices	4	96	384	
Restroom adjacent to classroom	2	300	600	
<b>Subtotal</b>			<b>3,096</b>	Located on either floor <b>sf</b>

## 3 Education and Human Services Cluster, Teacher Pathway

Required Spaces	# Rooms	Size	Total	Special Requirements
Classroom	1	1,056	1,056	Mobile partition; projection screens and equipment Child Dev'p Center
Lab	1	1,056	1,056	
Offices	4	96	384	
Restroom adjacent to classroom	2	300	600	
<b>Subtotal</b>			<b>3,096</b>	Located on either floor <b>sf</b>

## 4 Shared Facilities

Required Spaces	# Rooms	Size	Total	Special Requirements
Classrooms	2	1,056	2,112	Mobile partitions; projection screens and equipment
Lab	2	1,056	2,112	
Offices	4	96	384	
Resource Center	1	-	-	
Distance Delivery Room	1	-	-	
<b>Subtotal</b>			<b>4,608</b>	Located on either floor <b>sf</b>

## 5 General Building Support

Required Spaces	# Rooms	Size	Total	Special Requirements
Storage	4	100	400	
Janitor	2	75	150	
<b>Subtotal</b>			<b>550</b>	<b>sf</b>

6 Mechanical/Electrical 10% 17,476 1,748 sf

7 Circulation (Foyers, Corridors, Vestibules, Walls) 35% 19,224 6,728 sf

**BUILDING TOTAL** 25,952 sf



DRAFT: November 16, 2007

## Project Budget Summary

### Star of the Northwest

A Statewide Residential Magnet School

BCA Project No. 0719

PROJECT COSTS	PROPOSED
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#### PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT COSTS

<b>1. Land Acquisition</b>		
Property already owned by Northwest Arctic Borough School District.	\$0	
<b>2. Property Re-Zoning</b>		
None required.	\$0	
<b>3. Property Re-Platting</b>		
None required.	\$0	
<b>4. Road extension</b>		
None required.	\$0	
<b>5. Utility Extensions / Connection Fees</b>		
None required.	\$0	
<b>6. Property Survey</b>		
If required.	\$10,000	
<b>7. Geotechnical Analysis</b>		
If required.	\$50,000	
<b>Subtotal:</b>		<b>\$60,000</b>

#### ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS

<b>8. Northwest Arctic Borough School District</b>		
Set at 3% of construction costs to include:	\$1,058,195	
NWABSD Personnel		
Project Management Consultants		
Loan interest or bond fund management		
Legal Counsel Fees		
<b>Subtotal:</b>		<b>\$1,058,195</b>

#### A/E DESIGN SERVICES

<b>9. A/E Design Fees</b>		
Basic Services fee	\$3,527,317	
<b>Subtotal:</b>		<b>\$3,527,317</b>
<b>10. Remimbursable Expenses</b>		
Reproduction costs, travel, long distance charges, etc., billed at actual cost plus 10% against this budgeted amount.	\$150,000	
<b>Subtotal:</b>		<b>\$150,000</b>

#### PERMITTING / AGENCY APPROVAL

<b>11. Building Permit / Agency Approval</b>		
State Fire Marshal	\$20,000	
DEC Food and Sanitation:	0 for schools	
<b>Subtotal:</b>		<b>\$20,000</b>

#### CONSTRUCTION COSTS

<b>12. Site Construction and Building Construction **</b>	Area	Cost/SF *	
New Dormitory	26,507	\$450	\$11,928,150
Alaska Technical Center Addition	25,972	\$535	\$13,895,020
Alaska Technical Center Remodel	31,500	\$300	\$9,450,000
<b>Subtotal:</b>			<b>\$35,273,170</b>
<b>13. Construction Contingency</b>			
Set at 10% of construction budget		\$3,527,317	
<b>Total Construction Cost:</b>			<b>\$38,800,487</b>

**FACILITY EQUIPMENT / OUTFITTING****14. FFE, Facility Outfitting**

\$3,104,039

*Set at 8% of construction budget***15. Percent for Art***Set at 0.5% of construction budget*

\$194,002

**Subtotal:****\$3,298,041****TOTAL PROJECT COSTS:****\$46,914,040**

\* Rough Order of Magnitude Cost Estimate provided by UICC 11/14/07

\*\* Estimate Assumptions:

- 1 2009 Construction Start with no expedited scheduling required
- 2 New Dormitory:
  - 3-story structure
  - Pile-supported
- 3 Alaska Technical Center Addition:
  - 2-story structure
  - Pile-supported
  - Additional parking developed
- 4 Alaska Technical Center Remodel:
  - Extent of required remodel is unknown at this time
  - Assume interior gut and replacement with no exterior work
- 5 No contingency is included in the estimate